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NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN

Technical information on comprehensive planning, survey of cultural resources, and [illegible] for the National Register of Historic Places

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Interagency Resources Division

GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING AND NOMINATING PROPERTIES THAT HAVE ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN THE LAST FIFTY YEARS

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GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING AND NOMINATING PROPERTIES THAT HAVE ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN THE LAST FIFTY YEARS

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Introduction

Properties that have achieved significance within the last 50 years may be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, according to the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, only if they are of "exceptional importance," or if they are integral parts of districts that are eligible for listing in the National Register. This principle safeguards against listing properties which are of only contemporary, faddish value and ensures that the National Register is a register of historic places.

The Criteria for Evaluation are not designed to prohibit the consideration of properties whose unusual contribution to the development of American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture can clearly be demonstrated. The Criteria for Evaluation provide general guidance on National Register eligibility, however, the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act did not assume that significance could be a matter of rigid, objective measurement. It specifically encourages the recognition of locally significant historic resources that by appearance or association with persons or events provide communities with a sense of past and place. The historical value of these resources will always be a combined matter of public sentiment and, rigorous, yet necessarily subjective, professional assessment. Hence the Criteria for Evaluation, including their discussion of properties of recent significance, were written to offer broad guidance based on the practical and philosophical intent of the 1966 Act.

As a general rule, properties that have achieved significance within the last 50 years are not eligible for National Register listing because the Register is intrinsically a compilation of the Nation's historic resources that are worthy of preservation. The National Register does not include properties important solely for their contemporary impact and visibility, and it rarely is possible to evaluate historical impact, role, or relative value immediately after an event occurs or a building is constructed. The passage of time is necessary in order to apply the adjective "historic" and to ensure adequate perspective. To be a useful tool for public administration, the National Register cannot include properties of only transient value or interest. The passage of time allows our perceptions to be influenced by education, the judgment of previous decades, and the dispassion of distance. In nominating properties to the National Register, we should be settled in our belief that they will possess enduring value for their historical association, appearance, or information potential.

Fifty years is obviously not the only length of time that defines historic or makes an informed, dispassionate judgment possible. It was chosen as a reasonable, perhaps popularly understood span that makes professional evaluation of historical value feasible.

The National Register Criteria for Evaluation encourage nomination of recently significant properties if they are of exceptional importance to a community, a State, a region, or the Nation. The criteria do not describe exceptional, nor should they. Exceptional, by its own definition, cannot be fully anticipated or anticipated. It may reflect the extraordinary impact of a political or social event. It may apply to an entire category of resources so fragile that survivors of any age are unusual. It may be the function of the relative age of a community and its perceptions of old and new. It may be represented by a building or structure whose developmental or design value is quickly recognized as historically significant by the architectural or engineering profession. It may be reflected in a range of resources for which a community has an unusually strong associative attachment.

Thus a complete list of exceptionally significant resources cannot be prepared or precise indicators of exceptional value prescribed. The following discussion offers guidance for the reasoning and evaluation applicable to properties that have achieved significance in the last 50 years. It also offers direction on preparing Statements of Significance for National Register nominations of such properties.

Historic Context

All National Register nominations should be based upon an understanding of the historic context with which the nominated resource is related. Context refers to all of those historic circumstances and factors from which the property emerged. Knowledge of context permits us to understand the relative importance of the resource in question. Evaluating a property within its context ensures accuracy in understanding its role and in making comparisons among similar resources.

As defined in Webster's dictionary, context is comprised of the "interrelated conditions in which something exists or occurs." An understanding of the context of a historic resource is based on knowledge of the time, historical theme, and geographical area with which the property is associated. This involves understanding, among other things, the social, political, economic, artistic, physical, architectural, or moral environment which accounted for the presence of, as well as the original and current nature of the resource.

Context will vary with resources. It may be as simple as sites associated with the lumber industry in a particular county in the late 19th century, or as complex as the development of a national railroad line which was created by one set of physical, political, and economic forces, yet had different economic, social, political, and architectural impacts on local communities and geographic areas.

A thorough understanding of historic contexts for resources that have achieved significance in the last 50 years is essential for their evaluation. In evaluating and justifying exceptional importance, it is especially critical to identify the properties in a geographical area that portray the same values or associations and determine those that best illustrate or represent the architectural, cultural, or historical values being considered.

Thus the first step in evaluating properties of recent significance is to establish and describe the context applicable to the resource.

Scholarly Evaluation

A case can more readily be presented and accepted for a property that has achieved significance within the last 50 years if the type of architecture or the historic circumstances with which the property is associated have been the object of scholarly evaluation. The scholarly sources available to assist in evaluating properties from the 1930s and 1940s are now quite plentiful. Journals of architectural history, social history, landscape architecture, landscaping, and industrial archeology offer solid scholarship on many kinds of resources likely to be encountered. Previous National Register nominations may assist in establishing appropriate context and additional scholarship. Papers presented at conferences may contain research and analysis useful for resources of recent origin. In short, the application of scholarship—not popular social commentary—does not demand the presence of a published book. A wide and growing array of scholarly interest in historic properties can greatly assist evaluation of recent properties.

Fragile Or Short-Lived Resources

Some resources acquire the quality of historicity before the passage of 50 years because they either were not built to last that long, or, by their nature, are subject to circumstances

Figure 1: Little Rock High School (Central High School), in Little Rock, Arkansas. This building was the site of an first important test of the United States Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* ruling, and is exceptionally important for its association with the end of legal racial segregation in America. Following the forceful blocking of efforts of Black children to enroll in the public school system in 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower federalized the Arkansas National Guard, and sent a detachment of the 101st Airborne Infantry Division to Little Rock. On September 25, 1957, nine Black students, under military escort, were enrolled at Central High. President Eisenhower's actions demonstrated the determination of the Executive Branch to uphold a decision of the Supreme Court and reaffirmed that the United States is a nation ruled by law. (Photo credit: Bob Dunn).

that destroy their integrity before 50 years have elapsed. Such resources are viewed by scholars and by the public as "old" even before they are 50 years old. World War II frame temporary buildings were often constructed to meet temporary, intense demands for housing or office space and were not constructed to last long. They tend to be viewed as automatically expendable. Mining structures in the Rocky Mountain West have a short life-span both due to the effects of weather and because entrepreneurs did not invest much in their construction in order to maximize gain and/or limit financial risks. Federal tax laws, competition within industry, and changing transportation routes have jeopardized most early hotel or motor court complexes. Their rate of survival with integrity from the 1930s and 1960s is very low. Many highways from that same era have undergone "improvements" that result in the loss of historic engineering qualities and original materials.

The fact that a resource is jeopardized by a specific proposed project does not, in and of itself, render that resource more historically important than if it were not threatened. But one may evaluate whether a type or category of resources—as a whole—has faced loss at such a rate that relatively young survivors can be viewed as exceptional and historic.

Time

There are several specific issues relating to *time* which should be addressed in evaluating a less-than-50-year-old property.

The 50 year period is an arbitrary span of time, designed as a filter to ensure that enough time has passed to evaluate the property in a historic context. However, it was not designed to be mechanically applied on a year by year basis. Generally, our understanding of history does not advance a year at a time, but rather in blocks of time which can logically be examined together. For example, events which took place during the Depression or the Second World War can best be evaluated in relation to other events or properties from the same period. This means that our ability to evaluate properties moves forward in uneven leaps of years.

It should be determined whether the period under consideration calls for a routine historical evaluation or whether the period needs to be viewed in the context of exceptional importance. Without such a determination, certain properties which have just passed the 50 year point might be given greater value, and those just less than 50 years old might be ascribed, inappropriately, less importance, when the resources should have been evaluated together to determine their relative significance.

Several such periods have been examined since the National Historic Preservation Act was passed in 1966. The 50 year period at that time did not yet include World War I. Soon after the law was passed properties related to the First World War were evaluated—but that evaluation only made sense when examined for the entire war, not on a yearly basis. Similar leaps have been involved with the "Roaring Twenties" and the Depression and the Federal government's response to it. During the past 20 years we have been able to eval-

Figure 2: Coral Court Motel, Marlborough, Missouri, constructed in 1941. Architecturally, the 30 buildings of the complex represent an outstanding example of the Streamlined Moderne style of architecture. The Coral Court Motel is a rare high-style example of the motor court type of roadside lodging. Locally, the Coral Court Motel represents the increase in travel generated by the economic boom that began in 1940 with war-related production and lasted until gas rationing began in 1942. (Photo credit: Edey Hamilton)

Figure 3: Margaret Bay Cantonment, Fort Mears, Amaknak Island, Alaska, following the Japanese air attack of June 3, 1942. The naval air station at Dutch Harbor and the adjacent army post, Fort Mears, were the only defenses that the United States possessed in the entire Aleutian Islands at the start of World War II. On June 3 and 4, 1942, Japanese carrier aircraft made a two-day attack on Amaknak Island, the most serious air raid on North American territory during the war. (Photo credit: National Archives).

date and list properties, in many categories, constructed or achieving significance during those years, including: Federal projects during the Depression, the development of air transportation, Art Deco and the International styles of architecture, scientific advances, and sites related to numerous political and social events and individuals. There is now sufficient perspective to enable an evaluation of many properties related to the Second World War.

Some topics for future evaluation include post-World War II developments, the growth of suburbanization, shopping malls and commercial strip development, the expansion of educational, recreational, and transportation facilities, the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War, and the impact of historic preservation. An evaluation of some of these categories of resources before others might be possible, either because specific scholarly studies are available, or there exists general historical knowledge about the period or the significance of the resource.

A second consideration regarding time is that the appropriate date from which to evaluate a property for exceptional significance is not always the date of construction, but rather, the point at which the property achieved significance. The significance of an architecturally important property can be charted from the time of its construction. But the significance of properties important for historical associations with important events or persons should be dated from the time of the event or the period of association with a historically important individual. The significance of Upton Sinclair's house in Monrovia, California, because of its association with Sinclair, obviously begins in 1942 when he purchased the house, rather than in 1923 when the house was built. Thus, although a property may be over 50 years of age, if it is significant solely for a reason that dates from within the past 50 years, it must be exceptionally important to be listed in the National Register.

Third, the more recently that a property has achieved significance, generally the more difficult it is to demonstrate exceptional importance. The case for exceptional importance is bolstered when there is a substantial amount of professional, documented materials on the resource and the resource type. A property listed in the National Register 10 or 15 years after it has achieved significance requires clear, widespread recognition of its value to demonstrate exceptional importance. For example, Dulles Airport in Virginia, built in 1962, was determined eligible for the National Register in 1978. That action was based on the ability to evaluate the building compared with other modern buildings and recent airports. Dulles Airport was immediately recognized as one of the most important post-World War II American architectural masterpieces and one of the most innovative airport designs. A 1979 American Institute of Architects' poll selected the building as the third most significant building in the Nation's first 200 years. The building has been widely recognized in professional publications as exceptionally important in the history of American architecture.

Comparative Evaluation Of The Significance Of a Property

After determining the theme and appropriate time or chronological period with which a property is associated, the geographic limits of the property's context must be established. Exceptional importance does not necessarily mean national significance; rather, it is a measure of a property's importance within the appropriate historic context, whether the geographic scale of that context is local, State, or national. In other words, is the property best understood within the framework of a community, a river valley, a region, the State, or the Nation?

In evaluating and justifying exceptional importance, it is critical to identify the properties in a geographical context that portray the same values or associations and determine those that best illustrate or represent the historical, architectural, cultural, engineering, or archeological values in question. The scope or level (local, State, or national) at which this evaluation is made is directly related to the geographic level or "scale" of the property's historic context. For example, properties whose importance relates only to local mining activities need only be compared to others found in that locality to determine their comparative value.

Figure 6. The USS *Albacore* (AGSS-569), starboard side view during high speed surfacing. The experimental diesel-electric submarine USS *Albacore* represents a revolution in naval architecture. Designed and constructed between 1949 and 1953, the *Albacore* provided the model for all future United States Navy and most foreign submarines. The hull form pioneered by the *Albacore*, combined with *tuckless power propulsion, allowed sustained underwater performance and gave rise to the* first true submarine, to which nuclear characteristics are subordinated to underwater performance. (Photo credit: Portsmouth Maritime Museum).

Associations With Living Persons

On rare occasions, properties associated with individuals still living have been listed in the National Register. However, the nomination of such properties is strongly discouraged in order to avoid use of the National Register listing to endorse the work or reputation of a living person. Periodically, however, sufficient scholarship and evidence of historical perspective exist to list a property associated with living persons whose active life in their field of endeavor is over. In these instances, sufficient time must have elapsed to assess both their field and their contribution in a historic perspective. For example, two properties in Columbus, Ohio, associated with the folk artist Elijah Pierce were listed in the National Register even though the artist was still alive and had achieved significance within the past 50 years. It was demonstrated that Mr. Pierce's body of work was widely recognized as being exceptionally important within the realm of folk art. The buildings (his residence and barbershop/art gallery) were the only extant properties associated with the artist and that association was long standing (30-40 years). At the time of the nomination Mr. Pierce was 92 years old and it was unlikely that he would produce additional works which would require a major re-evaluation of his contribution to folk art.

For further guidance on this topic see National Register Bulletin 6, "Nomination of Properties Significant for Association with Living Persons."

Properties in Historic Districts

Under the National Register Criteria there are two ways that a property which has achieved significance within the past 50 years can be eligible for the National Register. First, as discussed above, a property can be individually listed if it is exceptionally important. Properties can also qualify if they are an "integral part" of a historic district which qualifies for National Register listing.

Properties which are integral parts of a district do not need to be individually eligible for the National Register or of individual exceptional significance. An explicit explanation must, however, be given as to how they qualify as integral parts of the district. This is demonstrated by documenting that the property dates from within the district's defined period of significance and that it is associated with one or more of the district's defined areas of significance.

Properties less than 50 years old may be an integral part of a district

when there is sufficient perspective to consider the properties as historic. This is accomplished by demonstrating that: (a) the district's period of significance is justified as a discrete period with a defined beginning and end; (b) the character of the district's historic resources is clearly defined and assessed; (c) specific resources in the district are demonstrated to date from that discrete era; and, (d) the majority of district properties are over 50 years old. In these instances it is not necessary to prove exceptional importance of either the district itself or of the less-than-50-year-old properties. Exceptional importance still must be demonstrated for districts where the majority of properties or the major period of significance is less than 50 years old, and for less-than-50-year-old properties which are nominated individually.

Historic districts with less-than-50-year-old properties which share elements of historical and architectural significance of the districts illustrate the policy discussed above. For example, some historic districts represent planned communities whose plan, layout of the streets and lots, and original construction of homes all began more than 50 years ago. Frequently, construction of buildings continued into the-less-than-50-year period, with the later resources resulting from identical historical patterns as the earlier buildings and representing a continuation of the planned community design. In instances where the number of these later buildings comprises a small part of the district, and these properties reflect the architectural and historic significance of the district, they can be considered integral parts of the district (and contributing resources) without showing exceptional importance of either the district or the less-than-50-year-old buildings.

While some districts have a unified historic and/or architectural development, it is important to recognize that integral does not mean that a district must have homogeneous resources or significance. Districts can also include diverse resources that represent the area's development over time. A commercial or residential area, for example, may form a unified whole, but have resources built in a variety of styles over a long period of time. In such a context, a late 1930s or 1940s movie theater or recreation facility may have increased significance because although there is often a scarcity of construction in the town during that period, these are important buildings and represent that period of the district's history. Thus such buildings often are integral parts of districts in which they are located.

Figure 6. Whitney Museum of American Art, 945-963 Madison Avenue, New York, New York. The Whitney Museum (1963-1966) is exceptionally important as the work of an internationally acclaimed architectural master, Marcel Breuer, whose work had a profound influence on the course of American architecture, and as a representative of the Expressionistic Movement in modern American architecture during the 1950s and 1960s. The Whitney Museum, it has been said, rose up the predominant 20th century style to our building. (Photo credit: Harvey S. Ziff).

Justifying The Importance Of Properties That Have Achieved Significance In The Last Fifty Years

The National Register nomination documentation for properties of recent significance must contain deliberate, distinct justification for the "exceptional" importance of the resource. The clarity and persuasiveness of the justification is critical for registering properties that have gained importance in the last 50 years.

The rationale or justification for exceptional importance should be an explicit part of the statement of significance. It should not be treated as self-explanatory. Nominations must make a persuasive, direct case that the grounds—the context—for evaluating a property's exceptional importance exist and that the property being nominated is, within that context, exceptional.

This justification must address two issues at the beginning of a nomination's Statement of Significance. The first section should contain, as described in National Register Bulletin 16, "Guidelines for Completing National Register of Historic Places Forms," a straightforward description of why the property is historically significant—with direct reference to the specific relevant National Register Criteria. Detailed guidance on this topic is contained in National Register Bulletin 15, "Guidelines for Applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." The second section should contain the justification for why the property can be determined to be of exceptional importance. It must discuss the context used for evaluating the property. It must demonstrate that the context and the resources associated with it can be judged to be "historic." It must document the existence of sufficient research or evidence to permit a dispassionate evaluation of the resource. Finally, it must use the background just presented to summarize the way in which the resource is exceptional.

Examples

The following properties, whose period of significance extends to less than 50 years ago, have been listed in or determined eligible for the National Register. The list is not exhaustive, but is intended to illustrate the range of such National Register properties.

The thematic approach, that is, studying all or most of the properties related to a historic theme in a given area, has been used extensively in nominating historic properties associated with both the period of the Great Depression and the Second World War.

While all properties must meet at least one of the National Register Criteria, many qualify for more than one. **Criterion A** recognizes properties that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. **Criterion B** allows the listing of properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. **Criterion C** recognizes properties that are architecturally significant. And **Criterion D** applies to properties that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

The Federal government's relief programs during the Great Depression led to the construction of properties throughout the United States, ranging from massive dams to small campgrounds. Because many of these resources are less than 50 years old it is often difficult, if not impossible, to evaluate them one at a time. Several States have effectively used a thematic approach to evaluate and nominate these types of properties which usually qualify under Criterion A for their association with historically important government programs and under Criterion C as examples of particular architectural styles or methods of construction. The National Register has recently listed numerous properties constructed as part of Federal relief programs in State parks. For example, 11 historic districts and 32 individual properties were listed in the National Register as part of the *Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture in Missouri State Parks, 1933-1942 Thematic Resources* nomination. Also listed are properties in State parks, constructed during this period, in Connecticut, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

Thematic nominations for U.S. Post Office buildings constructed up to 1941 have been prepared for California, Colorado, Mississippi, Oregon, New York, and Wyoming. In addition, Depression-Era Buildings in Oregon and Public Works Buildings in Utah have been listed before many of the properties were fifty years old. These nominations explain the exceptional importance of both the economic impact of the construction programs and the architectural significance of the buildings constructed in the local communities.

Within the past few years properties associated with the Second World War have been demonstrated to be of exceptional importance. Numerous ships, including aircraft carriers, battleships, destroyers, minesweepers, troopships, submarines, and PT boats have been listed. Important battle sites in Hawaii, Guam, Alaska, the Northern Marianas, the Marshall Islands, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and at Midway and Wake Islands have been recognized. Properties such as the location of important military intelligence code-breaking operations at Arlington Hall Station in Virginia, and the U.S. Naval Air Station Dirigible Hangars at Tillamook, Oregon, have been shown to be exceptionally important. Also included are properties associated with both the start of American involvement in World War II (U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor) and the site of the event that sealed Japan's fate (Trinity Site in New Mexico).

The inception of the American space program can now be viewed in a historic perspective. Properties in the National Register associated with the space program include research centers, such as the Propulsion and Structural Test Facility at the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, and the Zero-Gravity Research Facility at the Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio; launch sites, including Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, and Space Launch Complex 10 at Vandenberg Air Force Base in Lompoc, California; flight control facilities, such as the Apollo Mission Control Center in Houston, Texas; and space vehicles such as the Saturn V in Huntsville, Alabama.

Under National Register Criterion A, properties associated with a variety of exceptionally important historic events have been listed. Though less than 50 years old, the Pentagon, in Arlington, Virginia, has been listed for its exceptionally important role in the history of the modern United States' military. The U.S. Bullion Depositories at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and West Point, New York, are exceptionally important as the Federal government's main storage facilities for gold and silver bullion. Butler Field House in Indianapolis, Indiana,

Figure 6: Pentagon Office Building Complex, Arlington, Virginia. Constructed between August 1941, and January 1943, the Pentagon is exceptionally important for its association with the development of the modern American military establishment, as the location of major decisions regarding military affairs from World War II onward, as the international symbol of American military might, and for its significance as the most monumental example of the Federal government's Stripped Classical style of architecture. (Photo credit: MSgt. Ken Hammond, U.S. Air Force).

played an exceptionally important role in the development of American college sports. The Shelley House in St. Louis, Missouri, is associated with an exceptionally important court case in the U.S. Supreme Court's civil rights decisions. And several church buildings, including the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, have been recognized for their association with the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s.

Under Criteria A and C, historically important feats of engineering constructed within the past 50 years have also been recognized in the National Register. These range from the nationally significant Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, the country's largest monument, and the great Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River, to the more regionally important work done in Virginia and North Carolina in the late 1930s on the Dismal Swamp Canal, to the locally significant Lacey V. Murrow Floating Bridge constructed in 1940 in Seattle, Washington.

Under National Register Criterion B, the homes of exceptionally important persons, representing many fields of endeavor, have been recognized. Examples include the *arts* (the Alma Thomas House in the District of Columbia, residence of a nationally recognized painter), *invention* (a property associated with one of the founders of the space program, the Robert H. Goddard House in Roswell, New Mexico), *music* (the Oscar Hammerstein, II, Farm in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, the Evans-Tibbs House in the District of Columbia, the home of the prominent 20th century opera performer, Lillian Evans-Tibbs, and properties in Virginia associated with the important traditional musicians A.P., Sara, and Maybelle Carter), *literature* (the E.B. White House in Brooklin, Maine, and the home of Pulitzer Prize winning author Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings in Cross Creek, Florida), *military* (the home of the famous World War II American Air Force General, Claire Lee Chennault, in Gilbert, Louisiana), *economics* (Mountview, in Lynchburg, Virginia, residence of Carter Glass, the author of the Federal Reserve banking system) and *politics* (the Governor William J. Bulow House in Beresford, South Carolina, and the Senator William T. Byrne House in Colonie, New York).

Under National Register Criterion C, properties of recent vintage have been shown to have an exceptional impact at a variety of scales. The Lever House building, constructed between 1950-1952 in New York City, is architecturally significant as one of the country's first corporate expressions of the International style in post-World War II America. The Coral Court Motel, built in Marlborough, Missouri, in 1941 is an exceptionally important complex of small buildings designed in the Streamline Moderne style; it is unique as a high style example of the motor court type of roadside lodging. The Onondaga County War Memorial, constructed in Syracuse, New York, between 1949 and 1951, is of exceptional architectural importance at the local level as an early example of a "living memorial" erected in the post-World War II era to commemorate duty in the armed services. The Jersey City Medical Center, a large, planned Art Deco complex constructed through 1941, is recognized as an important architectural landmark in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Sites nominated to the National Register under Criterion D, because they "have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history" are also very difficult to justify if they are derived from activities of the last 50 years. Scholarly information sufficient to determine the comparative value of recent archeological sites tends to be very limited. It is especially difficult to determine what kinds of information can be derived from site remains as opposed to that available in written records, oral testimony, and photographs. This cautionary point does not constitute a prohibition of all such nominations, but it does illustrate the need for justifying and documenting the exceptional importance of recent archeological sites.

Summary

The National Register Criteria for Evaluation encourage the listing of a property that has achieved significance within the last 50 years only if it is of exceptional importance or if it is a contributing part of a National Register eligible district. While that language sounds restrictive, the criteria are general principles which are applied in specific contexts. The criteria discussion of recently significant properties is not intended to bar consideration of many resources that can be judged unusually important in the recent development of American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture. However, the criteria and National Register program require that nominations for such properties demonstrate that sufficient historical perspective and scholarly, comparative analysis exist to justify the claim of exceptional importance.

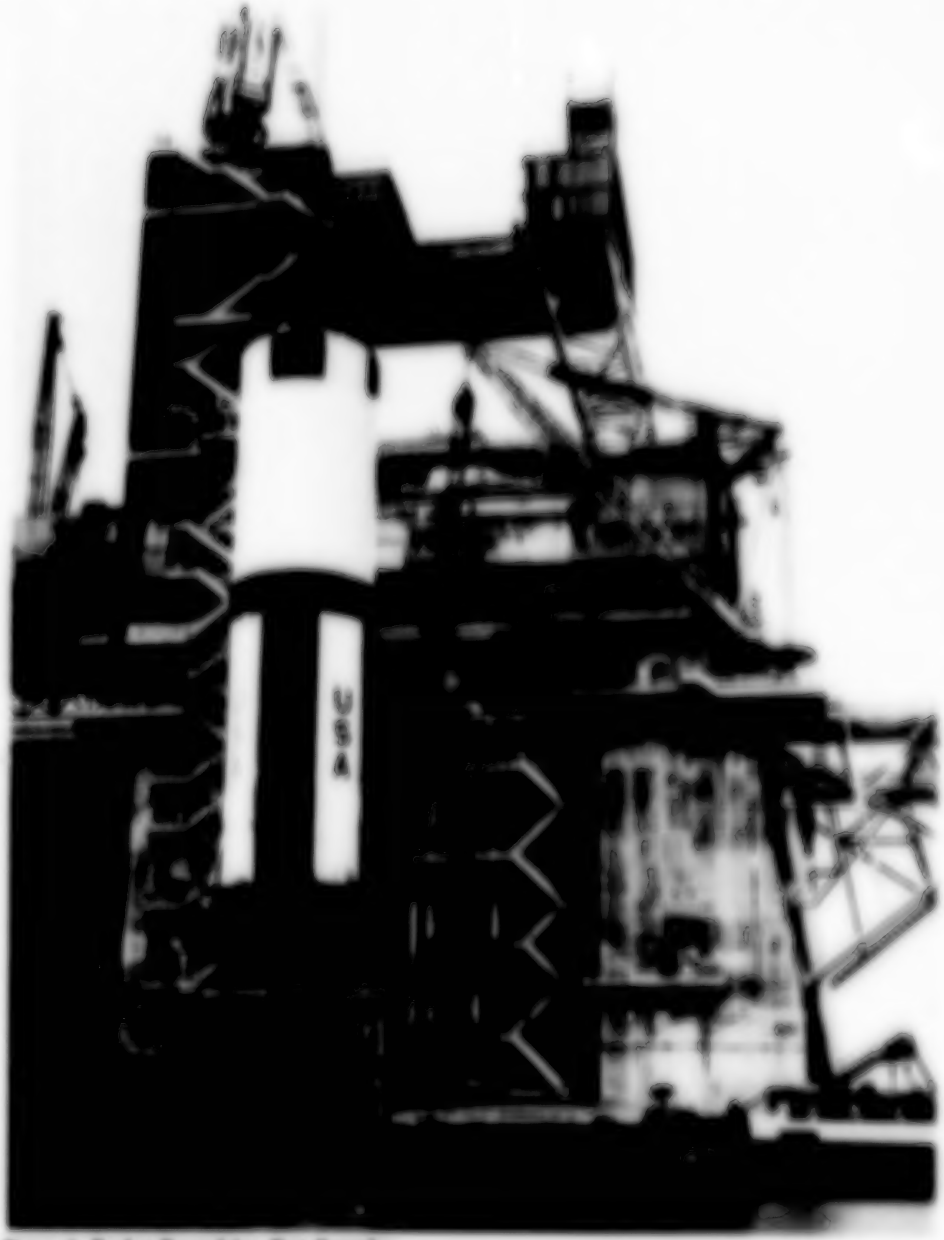

Figure 7: Rocket Propulsion Test Complex B-1/B-2, National Space Technologies Laboratories, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. This facility was constructed in the early 1960s as the national rocket test range for flight certifying large rocket propulsion systems. The "B" Test Complex supported all ground testing for the S-1C stage of the Saturn V rocket. The Saturn V was one of the most reliable rockets built for the space program and was crucial to the effort to land a man on the moon. (Photo credit: NASA).

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